

Message Text

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62

ORIGIN NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 EUR-12 IO-10 ISO-00 PRS-01 H-02 CIAE-00

DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-02 USIA-15 SP-02 SS-15 /083 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/P:MHVAN ORDER
APPROVED BY NEA/P:MHVAN ORDER
S/PRS - MR. FUNSETH (INFO)
H - MISS FOLGER (INFO)
EUR/P - MR. JERABEK
IO/P - MR. BLACHLY
NEA/ARN - MR. BULLEN
AF/P - MRS. RUSSELL

----- 113319

R 280118Z JUN 75
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMCONSUL DHAHRAN
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
AMEMBASSY TUNIS
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
AMEMBASSY MANAMA
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI
AMEMBASSY RABAT
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY ROME
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
USMISSION NATO
AMEMBASSY SANA
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USINT BAGHDAD
AMEMBASSY DOHA
AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI
AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN
CINCEUR

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJECT: DEPARTMENT PRESS BRIEFING

GENEVA FOR MEPC DEL
CINCEUR FOR POLAD

FOR YOUR INFORMATION AND GUIDANCE FOLLOWING ARE EXCERPTS
FROM DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN'S PRESS BRIEFING JUNE 27, 1975:

AMBASSADOR ANDERSON: YOU SHOULD HAVE AN AID PRESS RELEASE
ENTITLED, "U.S. AND ISRAEL SIGN A \$20 MILLION JOINT
DESALTING PROJECT AGREEMENT." THIS WAS SIGNED TODAY BY
AMBASSADOR DINITZ AND AID ADMINISTRATOR PARKER.

Q. DID YOU SAY THAT WAS BEING SIGNED TODAY?

A. YES, IT WAS SUPPOSED TO BE SIGNED AROUND NOON.

Q. PARKER AND DINITZ?

A. YES, SIR.

Q. CAN YOU TELL US WHETHER YOU HAVE ANY COMMENT, OR
WHETHER THE DEPARTMENT HAS ANY COMMENT ON THE ACTION OF THE

HOUSE REDUCING OR LIMITING FUNDS FOR THE ILO?

A. WE REGRET IT.

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Q. YOU REGRET THE HOUSE ACTION?

A. YES, IT WAS A HOUSE AMENDMENT. AS I RECALL IT, IT WAS
PASSED YESTERDAY. WE DO REGRET IT. LET ME JUST GIVE YOU
ONE LITTLE COMMENT WITH IT, BECAUSE WE UNDERSTAND THAT THE
ACTION WAS BASED ON THE ILO GENERAL CONFERENCE'S INVITATION
TO THE PLO TO PARTICIPATE IN SOME ILO GENERAL CONFERENCE
ACTIVITIES. AND I THINK, AS YOU ALL KNOW, WE VOTED AGAINST
THIS MOVE TO GRANT OBSERVER STATUS TO THE PLO, BECAUSE
THIS IS NOT APPROPRIATE TO THE ILO WHICH IS COMPOSED OF
GOVERNMENT WORKER AND EMPLOYER GROUPS. THE PLO HAS NO
GOVERNMENT AND NO RECOGNIZED LABOR OR EMPLOYER GROUPS. IT
IS OUR VIEW THAT THIS KIND OF POLITICAL ISSUE HAS NO BUSI-

NESS BEING TAKEN UP IN SPECIALIZED AGENCIES.

THAT IS THE ONLY COMMENT I CAN GIVE YOU ON IT.

Q. WELL, I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU ARE REGRETTING. YOU ARE REGRETTING THE ILO ACTION -- NOT THE HOUSE AMENDMENT?

A. NO. WE ARE REGRETTING THE CUTTING OFF OF FUNDS TO THE ILO.

AND THEN I WENT ON TO EXPLAIN TO YOU OUR UNDERSTANDING OF WHY THIS ACTION WAS TAKEN IN THE HOUSE.

Q. WELL, WHY DO YOU REGRET? YOU ARE CONCERNED ABOUT THE PLO PARTICIPATION?

A. WE THINK THAT THE ILO IS A HIGHLY USEFUL INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION AND WE HAVE SUPPORTED THIS ORGANIZATION FOR MANY YEARS.

Q. HAS THE SECRETARY SEEN AMBASSADOR DINITZ TODAY TO GIVE HIM ANY REPORT ON THE STATUS OF THE EXCHANGES?

A. ON THIS QUESTION, AS YOU KNOW, AS PART OF OUR REASSESSMENT THE PRESIDENT AND THE SECRETARY HAVE INDICATED THAT THERE WOULD BE FURTHER DIPLOMATIC EXCHANGES. AND IN THIS CONNECTION, AMBASSADOR DINITZ THIS MORNING MET BRIEFLY IN THE WHITE HOUSE, WITH THE PRESIDENT -- AND I DO NOT KNOW
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WHAT ANY WHITE HOUSE COMMENT THERE MAY BE ON THIS -- AND THEN SUBSEQUENTLY, HE MET HERE IN THE DEPARTMENT, FIRST, WITH UNDER SECRETARY SISCO; AND THEN WHEN THE SECRETARY RETURNED FROM THE WHITE HOUSE, AMBASSADOR DINITZ MET WITH

THE SECRETARY.

BUT FRANKLY, ON THESE DIPLOMATIC EXCHANGES AT THIS PARTICULAR TIME, I JUST CANNOT GET INTO THE SUBSTANCE OF THEM OVER AND ABOVE THAT WHICH I HAVE SAID SO FAR.

Q. WE'RE NOT GETTING INTO THE SUBSTANCE -- BUT CAN YOU SAY THAT THE PROCESS OF EXCHANGING IDEAS IS MOVING FORWARD?

A. LET ME JUST LEAVE IT THAT THE PROCESS OF EXCHANGING IDEAS IS CONTINUING.

Q. CAN YOU CONFIRM A REPLY FROM EGYPT?

A. NO. AS I SAID EARLIER, I WOULD JUST RATHER STICK WITH WHAT I HAVE GIVEN YOU HERE.

Q. DOES THE SECRETARY, AS FAR AS YOU KNOW, PLAN TO BE ACTIVELY INVOLVED IN THIS DIPLOMATIC EXCHANGE -- WHILE HE IS ON VACATION?

A. HAVING WITNESSED TWO OF THE SECRETARY'S FORMER, BRIEF STAYS DOWN ON THE CARIBBEAN, I AM CONVINCED THAT HE WILL CONTINUE TO REMAIN ACTIVELY INVOLVED IN THE AFFAIRS OF STATE. I CAN'T GO BEYOND THAT.

Q. WHILE WE ARE ON THAT AREA, IS AMBASSADOR EILTS PROPOSING, OR WILL HE BE ASKED TO GO TO TEL AVIV TO CARRY ANY RESPONSE FROM HERE?

A. I HAVE HEARD OF NO SUCH SUGGESTION AT ALL ON THAT LINE.

Q. CAN YOU GIVE US AN IDEA WHEN HE MIGHT RETURN?

A. I KNOW OF NO PLAN FOR HERMANN TO COME BACK.

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Q. IS HE BACK IN CAIRO, AS FAR AS YOU KNOW?

A. YES.

Q. OR STILL IN ALEXANDRIA?

A. CAIRO OR ALEXANDRIA I DON'T KNOW. I WOULD ASSUME HE IS BACK IN CAIRO.

Q. THERE WAS A REPORT TO THE EFFECT THAT THE EGYPTIAN REACTION TO THE ISRAELI PROPOSAL HAD BEEN HANDED TO EILTS. EILTS TRANSMITTED IT TO THE DEPARTMENT.

AND THE DEPARTMENT, THEN, TRANSMITTED IT TO OUR EMBASSY IN TEL AVIV TO GIVE TO THE ISRAELI GOVERNMENT.

DOES THIS MEAN THAT DINITZ WAS NOT CUT IN ON THIS AT THIS POINT?

THE PROCEDURE IS IMPORTANT BECAUSE OF WHAT HAPPENED THIS MORNING.

A. I CANNOT CONFIRM FOR YOU THAT REPORT IN ANY WAY WHATSOEVER. ALL I AM SAYING TO YOU IS THAT WE ARE CONTINUING THESE DIPLOMATIC EXCHANGES.

I CANNOT CONCEIVE THAT AMBASSADOR DINITZ IS BEING "CUT OUT" OF ANYTHING, FRANKLY.

Q. YESTERDAY THERE WAS CONSIDERABLE DISCUSSION ABOUT SOME REMARKS THAT AMBASSADOR TOON HAD MADE TO SOME CORRESPON-

DENTS, AND IT WASN'T VERY CONCLUSIVE. IT WAS PASSED OFF IN EFFECT AS BEING THE PERSONAL REMARKS OF THE NEW ENVOY TO ISRAEL.

HAVE THERE BEEN SECOND THOUGHTS IN THE DEPARTMENT ABOUT WHETHER OR NOT MR. TOON WAS SPEAKING PERSONALLY, OR WHETHER HE WAS NOT, IN FACT, OUTLINING WHAT THE THINKING IS IN THE DEPARTMENT?

A. THERE HAVE BEEN NO SECOND THOUGHTS ALONG THAT LINE, NO.
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Q. "NO SECOND THOUGHTS." DO YOU MEAN IT'S STILL PERSONAL?

A. THAT IS CORRECT.

Q. MAY I JUST FOLLOW UP ON AMBASSADOR TOON?

A. SURE.

Q. WHEN IS THE AMBASSADOR GOING TO ISRAEL?

A. I THINK IT'S THIS WEEKEND.

Q. WELL, HAS HE, UP TO THIS POINT, AMENDED HIS TESTIMONY BEFORE THE SENATE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE, IN WPALES- HE SPOKE ABOUT "WE" THE UNITED STATES SUPPORTS THE PALESTINIAN ASPIRATIONS?

A. I DO NOT KNOW WHETHER HE HAS AMENDED THAT.

Q. ARE WE -- IS THE DEPARTMENT AWARE OF THE FACT THAT

HE SAID THIS BEFORE THE --

A. I WAS UNAWARE OF IT.

Q. WELL, WILL THERE BE ANY --

A. I HAVE NOT SEEN HIS TESTIMONY. I WAS NOT PRESENT DURING HIS HEARING.

Q. WILL SOMEBODY LOOK INTO THAT TO SEE WHETHER OR NOT THIS IS A STATE DEPARTMENT POSITION -- OR AGAIN MERELY A POSITION --

A. LET ME FIND OUT IF THAT'S WHAT HE SAID, AND IF THERE HAS BEEN AN AMENDMENT OR NOT. I WOULD BE GLAD TO CHECK INTO IT. INGERSOLL

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<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

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